

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

✧ Light, Life and Immortality. ✧

DIRECTORY
GRACE REFORMED CHURCH,
94 EAST WASHINGTON STREET.

SABBATH SERVICES:

Bible School, 9:30 A. M.
Church Services, . . 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E., 6:45 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, (Wednesday,) . . 7:30 P. M.

A. K. ZARTMAN, PASTOR,

96 E. WASHINGTON STREET.

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Grace Church Visitor.

*A Monthly Magazine Devoted to Christian Nurture and Fellowship,
Aggressive Church Work and Applied Christianity.*

VOL. VI.

APRIL, 1894.

No. 4

THE RUTHLESS DESTROYER.

A legend is told of a community in the mountain region of the old world, which runs as follows: "At the base of a great mountain there was a beautiful and fertile valley. In a very early period there came to this country a colony of industrious men and women. Here they built their homes and tilled the soil, and soon the valley blossomed as the rose. But up in the fastness of that mountain, a fury had entrenched himself, and in the dead hours of the night, he would come down from his mountain lair, and pass noiselessly through that valley, and into every home, into every field, into every fountain of water, and into every flower he would infuse his venomous breath. In the morning, strong men would go out in the field, and inhale the malignant breath, and they would sicken and pale and die. Young men with the dew of youth upon the cheek would inhale the pestiferous breath, and they would turn languid and die. Women, old and young, in their homes would inhale the odious breath, and their vitality would fail them, and they would die. Innocent babes in the nursery, while yet in their mother's arms would inhale the furies' breath and they would wither and fade as the flower. In every home and field, by every fountain of water, and in every garden of flowers, there was disease, there was

woe and sorrow, and bitter disappointment, lamentation and death. The valley that once blossomed as the rose, and was happy with the thrift of manhood and womanhood, and the song and mirth of childhood, became a desolate. The cheer and bliss of home were transformed into gloom and sadness. The fruitful fields became barren, and the wells of water became fountains of tears, and the gardens of flowers were transformed into burial places of the dead. Never was there before a valley more beautiful, and more productive; no fountains of water, purer and sweeter; no sunshine brighter, than that shaft of light which rested like a cloud of glory upon that valley. But from that mountain lair there came down upon that land an ever-flowing stream of woe and of death. Strong manhood and womanhood, blooming youth and innocent infancy, all alike felt the crushing blow of that mountain fiend and by it they fell."

My friends, that fury from his mountain den has come down upon our land, and upon us. His pestiferous breath is abroad in our fields, in our homes, by our fountains of water, and in our gardens of flowers. The curse of rum has come upon us. Like a mountain fury, he has been swooping down upon us. He has visited our homes with desolation, and with sorrow, corrupting our manhood and our youth, and paralyzing our industries, and embitter-

tering the cup of motherhood and childhood, and filling our homes and our land, with sorrow and with weeping.

The cry against this curse has been heard so long, and so often, that the ears of many have grown deaf, and the hearts of many grown hard to this story of woe, and of destruction, but all the while the devastations are going on and this mountain fury is entrencing himself more securely in our land. While we are asleep, the great enemy of the home, of the church and of society is sowing the tares. While we repose in indifference, with folded hands and with drowsy eyes, deaf ears and with sealed lips, the destroyer's work is going on. He finds no time for rest, and no time for sleep. Every hour of the day, and of the night, and every day of the week this enemy of the home and of the soul is at work. In our own land, 60,000 of our fellow men are every year sent by this fury down to a drunkard's grave; and to a drunkard's hell; 75,000 yearly into prisons and jails; 200,000 to our poor houses; 90,000 a year from innocence to drunkenness and shame. Wives and children disgraced; marriage vows broken; homes wrecked, and mothers' hearts sorrowed and crushed. Everywhere upon our streets, and across the threshold of our homes the slimy trail of this old serpent can be tracked, and into the cup of the fairest and sweetest flowers has infused his odious breath.

With the church, and with every Christian man and woman, there never should be a spirit of apathy toward this great enemy. Every avenue should be blocked up against his invasions. Every hand should be lifted up in sworn vigilance and warfare against this curse, and every artillery of the church and of the Christian home should be turned upon the head of this insidious foe, and belch out upon him eternal vengeance and death. It is a sad fact that the Christian conscience is suffi-

ciently enlightened upon this matter, but it is not always sufficiently willing to carry out its own better convictions. What transformations are wrought in the man who falls a victim to this ruthless plague. What startling transformations of soul, and of body. A few years ago, while in an eastern city, walking along the streets one day, with a friend, my attention was directed to an object moving along on the opposite side of the street. A man in rags, with tottering step, disheveled hair, black and swollen face, and besodden countenance. Once I knew that man, when yet a youth, a young man of intelligence and respectability, but now a poor drunkard, with scarcely a vestige of his former identity left. What transformations in the physical man. But alas! what yet sadder transformations of soul and heart. From love to hate; from purity to lust and debauchery; from fidelity to truancy. And who shall be proof against the power and all the inducements of this insidious foe of the soul and of the body. Do not overestimate your strength to cope with such an enemy. Many a man, self-confident, ventures upon the enemies' territory, and falls an easy victim of the plague. "In one of the older universities of the east, about forty years ago, there was seen a youth of highest promise, bearing an honored name and concentrating in his intellect the moral power of two generations of his ancestors. He was a prodigy of learning. While others were plodding through Xenophon, he would be reading the Greek tragedians with the greatest faculty. He seized a language almost by intuition. Called upon by the professors at the university to read dissertations on difficult and abstruse subjects, he would read from blank sheets, pouring forth arguments that thrilled while they convinced, and charmed while they persuaded. His person was faultless; his hair like the raven's wing; his eye like the eagle's. On the day he received his

degree, he married one of the most beautiful girls in the vale that embosoms the college. His course was onward and upward. His profession, the law, led him to the highest office in the state. He was attorney general, when most students are admitted to the bar. Suddenly, when as yet no one knew the cause, he resigned his high appointment giving no reason. But soon the facts leaked out. Slowly, but surely, the appetite for rum had enslaved him. He was a secret drunkard. His sense of honor was too high to entrust himself longer with the destinies of society. With horror we turn from the years of degradation that followed. He sank like a mighty ship in mid-ocean, though not without many a lurch, many a sign of striving earnestly once more to plough the proud seas, that were destined to bury him forever." Alas, this is the fate of many a young man, who might some day ascend to the topmost round of the ladder, but they yield to temptation and their downfall is certain. Be not too self-confident and self-reliant. The destroyer is entrenched in power, and his vigilance out-wears the stars that never sleep. The thirst for blood makes him the raving demon of the pit. Clothe yourself in the armor of prayer, and in the strength of the Lord, and go not in the way of the tempter. So shall you escape his odious breath, and the fatal blows of his ruthless hand.

OUR NEW CHURCH.

At this writing the foundation of the new church is about completed. The masons have been doing rapid and substantial work. The rainy days we had a few weeks ago interfered somewhat with the construction of the walls. Taking all things in consideration, however, rapid progress has been made. The stone placed in the foundation are from the Eaton Quarries and are some of the very best brought to our

city; they are a blue lime stone of good size, and very hard and flinty. The walls are well constructed, and are so pronounced by all who have examined them. The cut stone in the building and for the finish of the walls in the front and sides will be the Indiana Bedford Stone; the brick in the front walls and towers will be of bright cherry color, laid in white mortar. The foundation affords already some idea of the beauty and symmetry of the building. As work progresses and the stone walls are nearing completion, we are becoming more and more delighted with the design of the church. Every person who has seen the drawings of the church has spoken in the highest terms of our designs, but we are satisfied that as the church goes up, it will even be yet far more artistic and beautiful than any have anticipated. Many have said, "this church will be a gem," others, "how statelily," "its very appearance looks hospitable," "it will be a thing of beauty." We predict, it will be "beautiful for situation" and the joy of our people, and we trust the joy of the Lord. We feel assured that our people will be so delighted with the church as the work progresses, that no amount of self-denial will be too great for them to make to see the building completed and dedicated unto the Lord with the least possible encumbrance upon it. We expect to announce in later issues of the VISITOR plans that we shall adopt to raise further funds for the furnishing of the church. In the meantime and all the time, our different Societies, Committees and our Brick Builders should be at work in securing means. We cannot afford to let any time or opportunity pass by unimproved. Let every one be at work in gathering funds. We shall also most thankfully receive offerings from any of our friends or churches and Sabbath schools abroad. The VISITOR will each month credit such amounts as may be received and also make a note of the work as it progresses on the church.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

A. K. ZARTMAN. D. W. SOUDER.
J. E. BEAHLER.

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ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF GRACE CHURCH.

Pentecost day, May 13th, Grace Church will celebrate its eleventh anniversary. In the morning, the Pastor will preach the anniversary sermon, and the whole service will be appropriate for the occasion. Every member of the Church should be at this service, and you should take special pains to invite your friends to come with you. At the morning service an opportunity will be afforded to parents for the baptism of children and also for applicants to be received into membership with the church. Let us make this a day of thanksgiving and of prayer, and of cheerful giving unto the Lord. The Church has been greatly blessed and prospered in the eleven years of its history, and the Lord has dealt very graciously with our people. The growth of the church has been very rapid, and when we shall now once have our new church we shall be able to do still more effectual work.

AT REST.

Mrs. James Parker died at her home near Cedarville, Thursday, April 5th, after an illness of only a few days. She was aged 24 years, 9 months and 10 days. She leaves to mourn her death, the husband

and two little children. The funeral services were conducted by the pastor at the St. Joe Chapel, four miles north of the city, Saturday afternoon, April 7th. May the Lord comfort the bereaved husband and tenderly care for the motherless children.

Harry, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Pearse, residing at No. 22 Chicago street, departed this life Thursday night, April 5th. Harry was a very active and promising child; kind, happy and genial in disposition, the parents' pride and the friend of everyone. The heart of the father and mother were naturally wrapped up in the child, and together with his little sister he was the hope and comfort of their future life. This bereavement was unusually sad, inasmuch as death came so unexpectedly and so much of future hope and happiness was centered in the child; every advantage was secured for his education and training for a useful life. The solicitous father and mother had taken every care to make their home cheerful and happy for their children, but the Lord had prepared a home in heaven yet more beautiful and enduring for the child, and to this home he took him while yet in the morning of life, and now somewhere in the mansions above the youthful spirit abides in everlasting peace, happiness and beauty. His companions are the angels and the two little ones who some years ago preceded him to the eternal world and a great company of the redeemed. Providence many times moves in mysterious ways, but we are assured that the Lord's doings are always right. The funeral services were held from the home on Monday, April 9th, and were conducted by Rev. J. M. Boggs, of the Third Presbyterian Church and the pastor. The music was by request in charge of Mrs. Zartman. Again we tender our sympathy and prayers to the family in their affliction and bereavement.

SUBSCRIBE for the VISITOR.

Sabbath School.

D. W. SOUDER.....Superintendent
M. CONNETT.....Ass't Superintendent
CHARLES GUMPPER.....Secretary
MRS. CHARLES GUMPPER.....Treasurer
ALICE CONNETT.....Librarian

Sabbath School Hour, Sabbath Morning, 9:30

SABBATH-SCHOOL RECORD.

Mar. 4.	Attendance,	116.	Collect.,	\$ 9.75
Mar. 11.	"	106.	"	6.23
Mar. 18.	"	106.	"	5.81
Mar. 25.	"	123.	"	\$28.36

March 4. Mr. Connett's class gave largest collection; amount, \$4.05.

March 11. Miss Mary Rudisill's class gave largest collection; amount, \$1.87.

March 18. Mr. Zartman's class gave largest collection; amount, \$1.47.

March 25. Mrs. Miller's class gave largest collection; amount, \$7.00.

Birthday collections during March, 89 cents.

Seven new scholars enrolled during March.

EVERY member of the church should bring a liberal thank offering to the Lord on Anniversary day, May 13th. If you should be detained from the services on that day, bring your offering on the following Sabbath.

ABOUT twenty of the members of Grace Church have volunteered to assist in the canvass of the city which is to be made Saturday, May 12th, in the interest of our Churches and Sabbath Schools. We expect to see some great results from this house to house canvass.

THE Infant Department under the management of Mrs. Zartman and Miss Nellie French has grown to such proportions that more room must be provided. The little "tots" are so crowded for room that very often two of them have to occupy the same chair. But we hope and pray that they may keep on coming. We will gladly give them more room.

DO NOT forget the date of our annual excursion to Rome City, June 15th. Put your fishing tackle in good shape for that day. We presume Sylvan Lake will be scooped.

IN building the new church the cornerstone of the lecture rooms had to be removed. It will now be placed in the corner of the hall of the new building leading back to the lecture rooms.

HAVE you already had your name entered upon the little ledger that is to be placed in the corner-stone of the new church? If not hand Brother Souder twenty-five cents, or more, and your name will be placed upon the record.

SALEM REFORMED CHURCH, COLLINGSWOOD.

The first Sunday in April the Sabbath School of the Salem Church was re-organized with election of the following officers:

Superintendent, John Warner.

Ass't Superintendent, George Barret.

Secretary, Nora Fredrick.

Treasurer, Perry Meyers.

Director of Music, Silas Kestler.

Organist, Amelia Schneider.

The school meets every Sabbath morning and has an unusually large attendance, and much interest is manifested. Since the 1st of Jan. there have been the following accessions to the church: Anna Meyers, John E. Fisher, Mrs. Elen Surfus, Mrs. Martha E. Surfus, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Surfus. There are others who expect to unite with this congregation in the near future. It is evident that this church has taken a new lease of life and its outlook is very promising. The attendance at the services is always large, whether they are held on Sabbath afternoon or on Monday evening. This church surely has a great field of harvest before it, and we hope to see a large ingathering of souls during the present pastoral year.

Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society

MRS. J. E. BEAHLER.....President
 MRS. LOUISA MILLER.....Vice-President
 MRS. ED. MILLER.....Secretary
 MRS. MARTIN CONNETT.....Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MRS. LOUISA MILLER. MRS. J. RUDISIL.
 MRS. GEO. HESSERD.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

First Thursday of each month, 2:30 P. M.

THE Chorus Class meets on Tuesday evening of each week.

THE missionary tea at the home of Mrs. Frank Cour, was a pleasant social gathering of the ladies.

KATIE PENCE was taken very ill with pneumonia recently, but we are glad to learn that she is now recovering very rapidly.

OUR entrance to the lecture rooms may sometimes be somewhat blockaded, but the way will be always open for our Sabbath services.

MRS. ERNST VORDERMARK and son, Ray, have returned to the city, and we are glad to learn, with the purpose of making this their future home.

A BRIGHT, blue-eyed baby boy made its advent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Jackson, 256 Clinton Street, April 8. The VISITOR extends congratulations.

VERY many of our people have not yet renewed their subscriptions for the VISITOR. You are not very certain of getting every issue unless you are a subscriber.

THE Financial Secretary will furnish the members of the church with special envelopes for the offerings on Anniversary Day, May 13th. Let us have a large collection on that day; the offerings will be applied to the current expenses of the church.

"THE Church is not a social club, nor an intellectual prize-ring, nor a spiritual hammock, but a house-worship in which you are a worker—a family in which the old are not to be arrogant, nor the young presumptuous, but each serving the other."

TEMPERANCE.

The Pastor is at present preaching a series of Sabbath evening sermons on Temperance. The subject for the sermon on Sabbath evening, May 6, will be, "What Can be Done for the Drunkard." May 13: "Should a Young Woman Marry a Young Man Who Has Acquired a Taste for Strong Drink."

"I CAN'T GET READY IN TIME."

It happens so every Sunday morning. During all the rest of the week, I can get up quite early. Breakfast is always late on Sunday morning, and so I can not get ready in time to go to church. During the week I can go five miles down to my place of business in the city by half past eight. But I find it impossible on Sunday to go five blocks to church by half past ten.

Questions: Is your business more important than the welfare of your soul? Are your engagements with man more important than your engagements with God? —*St. Andrews Echo.*

CORNER-STONE LAYING OF THE NEW CHURCH.

We are sorry that we can not announce definitely in this issue of the VISITOR when the corner-stone of the church will be laid, but at this writing the date cannot be fixed. The timber in the foundation must all be put in place and the first floor put down before we shall be ready for this service. It is thought that the corner-stone can not be laid until about the third Sabbath in May; when this time arrives we expect to have some very interesting services. The pastor is in correspondence with several of our prominent ministers abroad, whom we hope to have with us then. Services will be held on Sabbath morning, afternoon and evening. The corner-stone will be laid in the afternoon. We intend extending a general invitation to all our churches, pastors and citizens to this service, and no doubt we shall have a very large attendance, as well as inspiring services.

Y. P. S. C. E.

NELLIE FRENCH.....President
 EUGENE MATHIS.....Vice-President
 WILLIS SOUDER.....Secretary
 EMIL KETLER.....Treasurer
 LILLIE WALTERS.....Cor. Secretary
 Weekly Prayer Meeting Sabbath Evening at 6:45.

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS AND LEADERS.

May 6. Lessons from the lives of great missionaries. (A missionary topic.) Mrs. A. K. Zartman.

May 13. How to bear burdens. Gal. 6: 1-5. Nellie French.

May 20. What love does for the world. 1 Cor. 13: 1:13. William Rudisil.

May 27. God's call. What is our response? Eph. 4: 1:6, 17-32. Alice Connnett.

June 3. Our deliverances; from what and by whom? John 8: 31-36. D. W. Souder.

June 10. Why and how does God punish sin? Ps. 1: 1:6; Rom. 5: 12-21. Lizzie Rudisil.

June 17. Temperance in all things. Prov. 21: 15-30. (A temperance topic. Eugene Mathis.

June 24. Christian ideals. Matt. 5: 1-16, 48. Anna Souder.

IT WAS a good suggestion made in the *Golden Rule*, that the young people, having obtained the permission of the church authorities, make preparations to float the flag from the church spires on the coming Fourth of July. It would be a beautiful sight to see the stars and stripes simultaneously flung to the breezes from the steeples of our city. We hope our young people will favor this suggestion and immediately begin to take the necessary steps for uplifting "Old Glory" above the walls of our sanctuaries.

"Uplift the banner! Let it float
 Skyward and seaward, high and wide;
 The sun shall light its shining folds,
 The flag for which our soldiers died."

—The Congregational News.

HOUSE-CLEANING is now the rage. Do not overlook the important matter of having also your spiritual house swept and set in order. Some people never know how much dust has accumulated in the house until they begin to sweep.

REFORMED CHURCH COOK BOOK.

A book of household helps and culinary directions, under the above title, will be issued within a few months, under the management of Mrs. A. K. Zartman. It is the purpose of Mrs. Zartman to secure in this work the co-operation of the ladies of the Reformed Church, throughout our different classes and synods, requesting them to forward to her such recipes and household hints as have been well tried and proved. Recipes and helps are solicited for every department of house-keeping and cookery. The book will also contain numerous reliable advertisements that will be helpful to the home and the culinary art.

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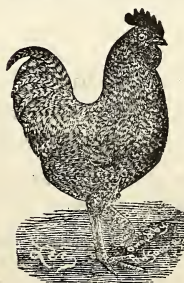
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D. W. SOUDER,
FORT WAYNE, IND.

LEADERS AND TOPICS FOR THE
WEDNESDAY EVENING
PRAYER MEETINGS.

May 2. The parable of the sower. Matt.
13: 1-8, 18-23. A. K. Zartman.

May 9. The parable of the tares. Matt.
12: 24-30, 36-43. Martin Connett, Eugene
Mathis.

May 16. The parable of the unmerciful
servant. Matt. 18: 21-35. D. W. Souder,
Mrs. Miller.

May 23. The laborer in the vineyard.
Matt. 20: 1-16. Frank Rupert, Charles
Segur.

May 30. The parable of the marriage of
the king's son. Matt. 24: 1-14. Mrs. Zart-
man, Nellie French.

N. B.—It is desirable on the part of our
Lord and Master, that the members of
Grace Church, when health permits, should
be present at the mid-week services for
prayer, scripture reading and social greet-
ing; come with due preparation for these
services, and they will be hours of refresh-
ing and delight to your soul.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

1st.—Where and how do you spend your
Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30?

2nd.—How often have you been at the
prayer meeting service on Wednesday eve-
ning since January 1st, 1894?

3rd.—What reason can you give to your
Master for having been absent from any of
these services?

4th.—Will you not pray that the Lord
may give you such a delight in the services
of the sanctuary, that you may be present
at every service?

THE pastor is still continuing his canvass
for the new church, it is slow work, but he
is meeting with marked success. As rap-
idly now as our people conveniently can,
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ther Souder will receive your money and
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